

REMARKS

This responds to the Office Action mailed on December 11, 2007.

Claims 1, 15, 18, 32, 35, and 36 are amended, no claims are canceled herein, and no new claims are added; as a result, claims 1-2, 5-19, and 22-36 are now pending in this application.

§102 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 1-2, 6-7, 9-15, 18-19, 23-24, and 26-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) for anticipation by Kari et al. (U.S. 6,154,745).

Applicants respectfully submit that, in light of the amendments, a *prima facie* case of anticipation cannot be established based on Kari because Kari does not disclose every element of the applicants' claimed subject matter. "A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference."¹

Kari describes a method for transmission of information to a user, in which a search terminal is used for sending an information query, which is received and processed. Further in the method, information is searched for, and the retrieved information is transmitted to the search terminal. The information retrieval is arranged to be conducted at least partly on the basis of the location and/or travel route of the user.

The Office Action cited Kari as anticipating the presently claimed limitation of: "*responsive to receipt of the query, initiating geolocation activities at the geolocation system to map the network address to a geographic location associated with the network address...*" The Office Action referenced portions of Kari at col. 6, lines 7-62 and col. 7, line 17 to col. 8, line 62.

In Kari at col. 6, lines 15-23, Kari describes its system as follows.

Information on the real-time location of a mobile communication device can be derived to the search terminal from the GPS system or another satellite location system or via the positioning service of a mobile communication

¹ Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987).

network. If a desktop PC or the like is used as the search terminal 1, whose location is not usually changed very often, the location information can be stored e.g. in a text-form file where the information can be retrieved and edited by the user. (emphasis added).

Thus, in Kari, the real-time location of a mobile communication device is described as being dependent upon information received from a GPS system, a positioning service of a mobile communication network, or pre-stored location information that describes the location of a desktop PC or like device. Kari does not automatically derive location information using a plurality of sequential automated mapping operations as presently claimed. Further, Kari does not generate or provide associated location probability information as presently claimed. Thus, Kari does not teach or suggest, “responsive to receipt of the query, initiating geolocation activities at the geolocation system to map the network address to a geographic location associated with the network address, wherein the network address is advanced sequentially through a plurality of sequential automated mapping operations to derive satisfactory geolocation information associated with the network address and associated location probability information...” (emphasis added). Kari merely retrieves location information from a positioning service or pre-stored location information.

In Kari at col. 7, lines 10-14, , Kari further describes its system as follows.

The user can enter the information on the location and/or the travel route manually and give further entries for identifying the services to be searched for. (emphasis added)

Thus again, in Kari, the geographical location is described as being manually entered by the user and not automatically derived by the system as presently claimed. Thus, Kari does not automatically derive location information using a plurality of sequential automated mapping operations as presently claimed. Further, Kari does not generate or provide associated location probability information as presently claimed. Thus, Kari does not teach or suggest, “responsive to receipt of the query, initiating geolocation activities at the geolocation system to map the network address to a geographic location associated with the network address, wherein the network address is advanced sequentially through a plurality of sequential automated mapping operations to derive satisfactory geolocation information associated with the network address

and associated location probability information...” (emphasis added). Kari merely retrieves location information manually entered by a user.

In Kari at col. 7, lines 60-67, Kari further describes its system as follows.

Next, the application program reads automatically the information on the location and/or on the travel route (block 309). As was presented above in this description, the information on the location can be determined e.g. by using GPS equipment and changed into a form suitable for the application program. This is not necessary, if the user has filled in the information on the location and/or the travel route in block 305. (emphasis added)

Thus again, in Kari, the geographical location is described as being either retrieved from a positioning service (e.g. GPS) or manually entered by the user and not automatically derived by the system as presently claimed. Kari does not automatically derive location information using a plurality of sequential automated mapping operations as presently claimed. Further, Kari does not generate or provide associated location probability information as presently claimed. Thus, Kari does not teach or suggest, “responsive to receipt of the query, initiating geolocation activities at the geolocation system to map the network address to a geographic location associated with the network address, wherein the network address is advanced sequentially through a plurality of sequential automated mapping operations to derive satisfactory geolocation information associated with the network address and associated location probability information...” (emphasis added). Kari merely retrieves location information manually entered by a user.

In Kari at col. 8, lines 59-62, Kari further describes its system as follows.

The query can be based either on the location of the user or other data, such as the service to be looked for, key words, classification, or any combination of these.

Again, in Kari, the query is described as being based on the location of the user as either retrieved from a positioning service (e.g. GPS) or manually entered by the user and not automatically derived by the system as presently claimed. Kari does not automatically derive location information using a plurality of sequential automated mapping operations as presently claimed. Further, Kari does not generate or provide associated location probability information as presently claimed. Thus, Kari does not teach or suggest, “responsive to receipt of the query,

initiating geolocation activities at the geolocation system to map the network address to a geographic location associated with the network address, wherein the network address is advanced sequentially through a plurality of sequential automated mapping operations to derive satisfactory geolocation information associated with the network address and associated location probability information...” (emphasis added). Kari merely retrieves location information from another service or manually entered by a user.

The same arguments as presented above with respect to claim 1 are also applicable to pending independent claims 18, 35, and 36. As such, at least for the same reasons noted above with respect to claim 1, the amended claims 18, 35, and 36 and their respective dependent claims are allowable. Thus, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

§103 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 8 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kari in view of Zoken et al. (U.S. 5,944,787).

Zoken describes an email mapper to identify a sender's U.S. postal address by detecting in the sender's email address, email message, or the sender's posting whether the sender's name and address are identifiable in the signature line of the sender's email and searching one or more electronic white pages to identify the sender's name and postal address. Wherein if no signature line is detected in the sender's email further filtering the sender's email to identify the geographic locale of the sender and then searching against one or more electronic databases, such as a business database, an ISP database, an electronic whitepage, or email mapper's generated relational database, to identify and generate a list of one or more USPS addresses associated with the sender's email address, name and locale of the sender.

Zoken was offered in the Office Action to show a group of domains. However, Zoken does not teach or suggest, “responsive to receipt of the query, initiating geolocation activities at the geolocation system to map the network address to a geographic location associated with the network address, wherein the network address is advanced sequentially through a plurality of sequential automated mapping operations to derive satisfactory geolocation information

associated with the network address and associated location probability information...”

(emphasis added), as explained above in connection with Kari.

Thus, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the claim rejections with respect to Zoken under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Claims 5 and 22 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kari in view of Reed et al. (U.S. 5,862,325).

Reed describes an automated communications system that operates to transfer data, metadata and methods from a provider computer to a consumer computer through a communications network. The transferred information controls the communications relationship, including responses by the consumer computer, updating of information, and processes for future communications. Information which changes in the provider computer is automatically updated in the consumer computer through the communications system in order to maintain continuity of the relationship. Transfer of metadata and methods permits intelligent processing of information by the consumer computer and combined control by the provider and consumer of the types and content of information subsequently transferred.

Reed was offered in the Office Action to show the use of an API. However, Reed does not teach or suggest, “responsive to receipt of the query, initiating geolocation activities at the geolocation system to map the network address to a geographic location associated with the network address, wherein the network address is advanced sequentially through a plurality of sequential automated mapping operations to derive satisfactory geolocation information associated with the network address and associated location probability information...” (emphasis added), as explained above in connection with Kari.

Thus, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the claim rejections with respect to Zoken and Reed under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 16-17 and 33-34 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. A portion of original claim 16 has been

incorporated into independent claims 1, 18, 35, and 36. Consideration of the currently presented amended claims in view of the indication of allowability is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney 408-406-4855 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG & WOESSNER, P.A.
P.O. Box 2938
Minneapolis, MN 55402
408-278-4042

Date 02/11/2008

By /  /

Reg. No. 35,668

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being filed using the USPTO's electronic filing system EFS-Web, and is addressed to: MS RCE, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 11th day of February 2008.

Dawn Shaw

/Dawn R. Shaw/

Name

Signature